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News Release

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CATTLE ON FEED

COLORADO

The number of cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in Colorado feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or larger was estimated at 1,090,000 head as of April 1, 2011. The latest inventory was 2 percent above last month's inventory and 17 percent above April 1, 2010 inventory. The inventory included 740,000 steers and steer calves, up 17 percent from the previous year. The number of heifers and heifer calves, at 345,000 head, are up 17 percent from a year ago. The number of cows and bulls totaled 5,000, no change from last year's number. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 190,000 head of fed cattle during March 2011. This was 10 percent below the previous month's marketings and unchanged from one year earlier. An estimated 215,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during March, unchanged from February 2011 placements but up 16 percent from a year ago. Of the number placed in March, 19 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 16 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 33 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 33 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for March, at 5,000 head, was unchanged from last month, and last year.

UNITED STATES

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.3 million head on April 1, 2011. The inventory was 5 percent above April 1, 2010. The inventory included 7.12 million steers and steer calves, up 7 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 63 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.10 million head, up 2 percent from 2010. Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.92 million, 3 percent above 2010. Net placements were 1.87 million head. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 380,000, 600-699 pounds were 360,000, 700-799 pounds were 588,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 590,000. Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.99 million, 4 percent above 2010. This is the second highest fed cattle marketings for the month of March since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 52,000 during March, 13 percent below 2010.